



City of Rochester



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Robert J. Duffy
Mayor

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Biography

Bob Duffy

(Robert J. Duffy)
Mayor, City of Rochester, New York
Born: 8/21/1954
Birthplace: Rochester, New York



Bob Duffy was sworn in as Mayor of Rochester, New York, on January 1, 2006, when he immediately set out on an ambitious and aggressive plan to revitalize a city that led the state in a number of distressing categories. Faced with a shrinking tax base, high levels of crime and an eroding economy, Duffy set his agenda on improvements in public safety, education and economic development. He began by assembling a highly professional management team with decades of experience in the private, public and non-profit communities. His vision of hope, unity and commitment has been extremely well received by the community. The enthusiasm and optimism evident since January 1 has brought Rochester to a turning point.

Mayor Duffy has demonstrated a knack for bringing the community together to support its most important needs. For example, nearly 500 people volunteered to clean up and beautify Rochester for just the first week of the six-week "Rochester's Clean Sweep...Showing Pride in Our City" spring clean up. In addition, the collaborative efforts of the "Rochester Fair Share Coalition" cast light on Rochester's significant needs and helped bring in the highest-ever state aid increase in Rochester's history. Duffy is also asking local businesses, individuals and organizations to provide jobs for city youth through a *Summer of Opportunity* initiative. Another hallmark of Mayor Duffy's administration is his commitment to customer service. He makes sure that every constituent contact is responded to within 48 hours and he holds monthly "City Hall on the Road" meetings to make government more accessible to citizens.

Born in Rochester, the youngest of three brothers, Duffy played high school basketball before going on to college and joining the Rochester Police Department in 1976. He became Deputy Chief of Police in 1992 and Rochester's Chief of Police in 1998. In 2005, he stepped down as Chief to actively campaign for Mayor.

Duffy implemented several innovative programs while serving in Rochester's Police Department. He created an anti-gang initiative, collaborated with local and state police agencies to combat street violence, and convened Rochester's first-ever drug summit to seek answers to the most significant crime and public health issues.

Mayor Duffy and his wife, Barbara, have been married for 20 years and have two daughters, Erin, 18, and Shannon, 16. Duffy enjoys spending time with his family, reading and jogging.

